

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /071 W

----- 081233

R 311420Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7601

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: USEGJC EGEN

SUBJECT: PM SALEM STATEMENT OF GOE POLICY
TO PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

REF: CAIRO 10809 (NOTAL)

1. IN LENGTHY OCT 29 PRESENTATION TO PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, TEXT CARRIED FBIS, PM SALEM PRESENTED FORMAL GOE POLICY STATEMENT OUTLINING HIS GOVERNMENT'S PLANS FOR ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN COMING YEAR. AS IN PAST, MAJOR FOCUS WAS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS, DETAILING IN GENERAL TERMS STEPS GOE PLANS TO TAKE TO CONTINUE DEVELOPMENT AND LIBERALIZATION EFFORTS. SPEECH BROKE NO NEW GROUND AND INSTEAD STRESSED CONTINUATION OF PROGRAMS ALREADY BEGUN PRIOR PERIODS.

2. FIVE OF MAJOR GAOLS ENUNCIATED BY PRESIDENT SADAT IN LATTER'S SPEECH TO ASSEMBLY ON OCT 18 WERE REITERATED AS OBJECTIVES: REMOVAL OF OBSTACLES TO OPEN DOOR POLICY;
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INCREASE IN EFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC SECTORS; STRENGTHENING

AND EXTENSION OF SOCIAL INSURANCE PROTECTION; REVAMPING
OF TAX STRUCTURE; REDUCTION OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURES.

3. IN KEEPING WITH EGYPT'S POLITICAL PROCEDURES, ASSEMBLY
HAS APPOINTED COMMITTEE UNDER DEPUTY SPEAKER OTEIFY
TO PREPARE REPORT ON GOVERNMENT STATEMENT. REPORT
WILL BE DEBATED IN ASSEMBLY, PROBABLY IN NEXT FEW DAYS,
AND MODIFIED AS NECESSARY TO REFLECT VIEWS OF MEMBERS,
FOLLOWING WHICH ASSEMBLY WILL REPLY TO GOVERNMENT.
GOVERNMENT WILL THEN PROPOSE TO ASSEMBLY SPECIFIC MEASURES
DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE AGREED UPON OBJECTIVES.

4. COMMENT: ASSEMBLY REACTION THUS FAR APPEARS TO BE
FAVORABLE. PM HAS EVIDENTLY MADE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO
INSURE THAT AT LEAST MAJOR FOCUS OF GOVERNMENT POLICY
REFLECTED VIEWS OF ASSEMBLY. HE APPEARS TO HAVE ACHIEVED
THIS GOAL AND WE ARE NOT AWARE THAT ANY SERIOUS PROBLEM
EXISTS. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME MAY SURFACE IN ASSEMBLY
DEBATE BUT SEVERAL MEMBERS HAVE ASSURED US THAT THE ISSUES
RAISED WILL NOT BE SIGNIFICANT.

5. IT IS PERHAPS NOTEWORTHY THAT REDUCTION IN EXPENDITURES
HAS APPEARED AS ONE OF PRINCIPAL FACETS OF GOVERNMENTAL
PROGRAM. AS WITH SO MANY THINGS, THERE MAY BE SOME
SLIPPAGE BETWEEN ANNOUNCED INTENTION OF CUTTING BACK ON
SPENDING AND ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENT THIS IMPORTANT GOAL, BUT
FACT THAT GOE HAS BEGUN TO EXPRESS PUBLIC CONCERN IS A
VERY PROMISING SIGN.
MAESTRONE

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